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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Walker et al.	
Serial No.: 10/663,684	Group Art Unit: 3736
Filed: September 17, 2003	Examiner: Matthew J. KREMER
Title: Needle with Fiberopotic Capability	
Attorney Docket No.: ISR00-10 19	

United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
☒ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

Applicants submits herewith Form PTO/SB/08a Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant(s) listing U.S. published patent applications of which Applicants are aware, which Applicants believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR

1.56. Copies of the U.S. patent application publications are not provided pursuant to the August 5, 2003 Official Gazette Notice.

Certification under 37 CFR 1.97 (e)

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification no item of the information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to an individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information Disclosure Statement.


Request under 37 CFR 1.704 (d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was not learned of by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Although the art did not originate from a counterpart patent application in a foreign patent office, Applicants request the benefit of 37 CFR 1.704(d) as the submitted information was learned of in the last thirty days.

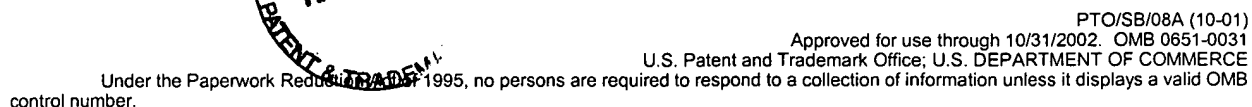
Neither this statement nor the listing of these documents on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a should be considered as an admission by Applicant(s) that these materials are prior art as to Applicant(s). In addition, this statement should not be construed as a representation that no better disclosure exists.

Entry of the Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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March 8, 2005



Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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